



Eighteenth Meeting

FreeSchools World Literacy Australia

DATE commencing: Friday 6th March 2009 TIME: 9 am
DATE completion: Sunday 8th March 2009 TIME: 9 pm

INTERNET VENUE: FreeSchools Literacy Australia email network
fswl-australia@googlegroups.com

Minutes of the Meeting

1. Rollcall of members and others present and apologies.

There were 15 participants in attendance
Robert Coenraads (President)
Ben Bowler (Vice President)
Merindi Belarski (Treasurer)
Ian Esmore (Public Officer)
Kathleen Swadling (Committee Member)
Delphine Swadling (Committee Member)
Betty Lyon (Committee Member)
Judy Townsend
Joanna Townsend
Sue Tennant
Saskia Raevouri
Vern Verass
Melissa Aldis
Linda Alcorn
Paul Garrioch

A motion was moved by the President, Robert Coenraads, that Melissa Aldis be admitted to the FreeSchool World Literacy Committee of Management as an Ordinary Member. The motion was seconded by Merindi Belarski and Ian Esmore

I would like to officially welcome Melissa Aldis as a new Member of our FreeSchools World Literacy Committee of Management. Shortly, if not already, she will be able to receive all of the correspondence between members through our FSWL Google Group.

2. Acceptance of the Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the Seventeenth meeting were sent to each member of the committee and were accepted by the committee
Moved by Ben Bowler and Seconded by Merindi Belarski

3. Reports from the Committee.

The Committee received the President's Report

PRESIDENTS REPORT

I would like to welcome you all to our 18th monthly meeting.

The Minutes of the last (17th Meeting at 20 pages) and this meeting (at 26 pages), are the longest ones ever produced - full of exciting correspondence. Although it was quite a job of putting them all together, I hope that they continue to mark FreeSchools World Literacy's growing presence on the world scene. Please take the time to read them, as there are a number of important ongoing action items.

This last month has really been a busy one with two highly successful fundraisers - one hosted by Judy and Joanna Townsend on New South Wales' Central Coast and the other hosted by Betty Lyon in Franklin, Tasmania. I had the privilege to be able to attend the afternoon tea on the Central Coast which was blessed with fine sunny weather and over 100 attendees in a wonderful garden setting. Thanks to the skills of everyone involved, we had brochures, cards, posters and DVD's aplenty, all promoting the FreeSchools cause. Thank you all for your contribution to those events.

Thank you for your attendance at our 18th meeting.

Dr. Robert Coenraads
President,
FreeSchools World Literacy – Australia

4. Progress in Thailand.

Sue: Dear Paul, Just to confirm we (FSWLCanada) are no longer funding FreeSchools where the kids have access to a government school after March 31/09. It was my understanding that Jadad and Moo were going to get back to me with recommendations about any FreeSchool that still needs our continuing support next school year and a budget for that. As discussed during our meeting, these schools must comply with our FreeSchools model.

Money raised in Australia for Thai FreeSchools should be used for newly created FreeSchools (in villages where there is no access to education) as of May 1, 2009. We budgeted \$3000/school/year to open these. It looks like Judy, Jo and Linda could possibly raise as much as \$6000 - enough to open two new schools.

Please let me know if we're on the same page. Thanks

Sue: Dear Ben and Jildou, I hear your call for prayer and help. Hopefully FSWL-AU will respond. I know your work could be deemed as "FreeSchools". Please put together a Case for Support for the Australian FreeSchool Board. I so appreciate your selfless work among these most vulnerable people. Bless you both and love & appreciation for your compassionate service.

Ben: Thank you Sue for your kind words. We would welcome FreeSchools to be a part of this program as we expand it to more teachers in the future. I will write a full proposal for the Aussie team after this 2 weeks training is complete, by that time we will all know a lot more.

Paul: Sue - the report for last month is written (in Thai) and currently being translated. So we will have that to you soon. I am not yet sure of the entire content, but most government supported schools are no longer supported by FreeSchools - I believe there is going to be one or two that we can't pull out of immediately, as the government is in the process of supporting them. ie. we are supplying a teacher and the government a teacher (for a large class that needs more than one teacher). I think these can be considered success stories in the making, as the government is taking them over but the process isn't complete yet - anyway, I will

get you the full story in the report soon. From my understanding - these were classes that had no teacher until FreeSchools supplied them with one - and then the government agreed to take them on - so I think they fit the model, but just aren't completely handed over yet - and it would be premature to pull away from them too soon, as we want to set up a successful model of the government taking over schools/classes that we start up. We're getting there.

So, next step is to decide where to set up new FreeSchools and how many.

One (the one we visited) has been decided.

How many others and where? - I suppose will depend on the fundraising and thoughts on how to use that. Sue, I am interested on your ideas regarding that. How much money do we have?

Should we use it all, or save some for next year,....?

Ha ha - Judy your comments on the volunteers - if only you could see them. You were lucky to meet Linda, Bec and some of the others. The current lot (and the usual) are much less self motivated. They really rely on us to tell them everything and poor Aye trying to get them to do some basic tasks - it is a bit of a drag. They are good people and want to help - but just not much initiative or drive. So I don't think they could do what you guys are doing. You guys are quite amazing. But occasionally we do get people like you and it is a great idea to use your activities as an example for what they could do. I will keep an eye out for the special ones.

There was a volunteer a while ago called Daniella who is interested in doing more - did she contact you? I can pass on her details if you want to talk to her and give her suggestions.

Sue: Dear Paul, Judy, Jo and Robert, Thanks everyone for working together and being so enthusiastic. This reply may be a bit of a wander so hope you can stay with me.=
Jo - totally brilliant to expand the news broadcast. You can bet it will help us here. A million thank yous! Jude, please send to FSWL, 51 St. Lawrence St., Collingwood, ON Canada L9Y 4Y3 and I appreciate the cost and hassle.

Judy - way to go on yet another huge bank deposit! You must be pushing close to \$6000 now - the cost of funding 2 new FreeSchools! Bravo!

Paul - thanks for your appreciation of Judy and Jo. And I hope you know that we're all loving you, your family, and the great work you have chosen to do in Thailand. I hope, by some miracle of miracles that you can connect with at least Jo, Merindi, Robert and others in Sydney. But you really should meet Murray, Judy's wonderful husband and Jo's great Dad.

Robert - maybe there is a way for Paul to hook up with Ian in Melbourne. Ian has been instrumental in helping to incorporate FSWL-AU. Paul, you have a FreeSchools team behind you that is very anxious to help and if you can connect personally it will make a big difference. They have been hanging in patiently for 18 months, waiting to get charitable tax status. Judy and Jo have been a pivotal stimulus in the interim but Australia is waiting to move into high gear.

I'll look forward to the report from Jadad and Moo. As you may recall in our last meeting in January at Mirror, I did commit to the support of 5 new Thai FreeSchools in 2009/10 @\$3000/school/year. At that time, any help from Australia was unknown. But it looks like about \$6000 from FSWL-AU and \$3000 from FSWL (Canada) can be sent to Mirror within the next 30 days. In our final meeting at Mirror, I explained that funding for the Thai schools (not complying with our FSWL model) over the last three years from Canada, was personal and would stop March 31. But I said we would not abandon any support for FreeSchools operating within the model and for which the government has rejected support.

In terms of raising money in Canada, the Thai schools sometimes have a greater appeal than the Indian FreeSchools. I hope in practice that Australia can take over much of the funding for future expansion in Thailand but I don't think it should be totally in theory. Whatever Australia can raise money for in Thailand, frees me up to send donated money to India and the money there is desperately needed.

Just so you know, I sent \$26,500 to Thailand last year for 10 schools. Before Mirror took over, I was sending \$36,000/yr. In 2008, I sent Sr. Crescence just \$40,000 to run 43 FreeSchools and she still has a balance that she is borrowing against to build a dormitory. I have never met a woman who can accomplish so much with so little! But this does not include the very important scholarship money that Australia raises and that my friend Saskia has raised for independent projects.

But in 2009, we must raise \$90,000 for FreeSchools in Bihar. Schools will number 53 and we need to buy a vehicle and finish construction of a dormitory. In addition we need \$20,000 to support 16 FreeSchools in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh.

So, I think the bottom line is this. Whatever FSWL-AU can raise is what should determine the the number of future FreeSchools in Thailand. But FSWL (Canada) should not be exempt from raising funds or using Thai Schools in our marketing efforts. What do you think?

Paul: Totally agree. It is great if the efforts in Australia can mean that you can get the other funds to India to keep the schools running there and open new ones. I should be able to meet the FreeSchools people in Melbourne as I will be there for most of my stay in Australia. Can you help me set that up?

I'd really love to visit Judy, Jo, Linda and many others in Sydney too. But I am travelling with all the kids, including a young baby, have limited funds, no vehicle and really should spend time with my family in Melbourne and also study for my uni degree - so I will keep the option of heading up that way open for the moment if I can, but???? It may be pushing things a bit. We'll see. Kanchana would like to see the Harbour Bridge and Opera House - so if it is possible we'll come up that way. Thanks again everyone.

Paul: Here is the report. It isn't perfect, but it is already late enough and I think it is important you see what we are up to - or planning on being up to. It takes quite a bit of effort to get these reports to you and in this one I concentrated on understanding what is happening with the old schools - I noticed at the end of the report I didn't have a full understanding from my discussion with Jadad on what was the situation with some of the new/proposed schools - we are going to have to work on making that more clear for you in upcoming reports. Sorry - but hope that this is useful.

OH - I forgot to write in the report that Moo and Jadad say THANK YOU very much for all your support to us and to education in this area.

Sue: Dear Paul, Thank you so much for sending the February 2009 FreeSchools report (SEE APPENDIX). It is by far the most comprehensive report to date. I've just read it through and can see that it was a lot of detail for you to summarize (from the Thai to English translation) but your understanding and comments helped me a lot. I also greatly appreciated the graphic. I'm going to forward it to fswl-au for their information.

I know Jadad has more research to do but I will need to see a new budget proposal that is specific about travel costs, learning supplies and teacher salaries. Some schools require not only a teacher but one or more teaching assistants and that was not the case two years ago. (I guess growth had to happen!) I defined a FreeSchool as a class with one teacher, so now we need to have the funding requirements broken down for each location.

When we visited in January we established that it would cost \$3000 to start a new FreeSchool (factoring in the extra time and travel for Jadad in the beginning and teacher training etc.). So if we go ahead with 5 new schools that means we need to raise \$15,000. More than half that money has already been thankfully raised in Australia for new schools (and without charity status confirmed!). I think it should be their call if they feel they can raise the rest needed to support all five new schools.

Let's see what they have to say after reading your report. Thanks again for all your work on this. I know as Volunteer-Coordinator for Mirror you already have so much on your plate!

5. Progress in India

6. General Business.

The following discussion took place during the meeting and is recorded here:

FSWL Charitable Status

FSWL Australian Website and Communications

Robert: Thank you Sue and Ian for your valuable discussion on the FSWL websites. As Ian mentioned, we have just begun to throw ideas around but have not progressed much further than that - apart from Ian's original efforts in setting up our 1 page site at www.freeschools.org <<http://www.freeschools.org.au>> .au <<http://www.freeschools.org.au>> , and now Vern has offered his input. Ian's point of ease-of-use for novices is important.

Sue's idea of a single point of access via a single website, with local pages branching off it, also has a most important ramification - Many of the search engines (such as Google) will place websites in a hierarchy depending on the popularity of a website (i.e. the number of times that people access it), so the more a site is used the closer it is to the top it is listed - and I know from personal experience that most people go no further than the first few pages during a search. That is why "Wikipedia" is always up there.

So, when people search for "schools charities literacy" then, given time, our website will be right up there. Also shortly, we should think about a Wikipedia entry for FreeSchools World Literacy.

Sue: Wikipedia is a great idea. Maybe you could get us going on it Robert and we can all have input. I am meeting with my website designer on Monday and I have to let her know what we need and see what she can do for us.. I'll get back to you after that meeting.

Just for your information, I am considering changing from etapestry to Canada Helps as our online donation vehicle. CH helps by automatically processing the credit card and sending out an electronic tax receipt (this is big!). When they send us the cheque, they include all the donor data and also keep it on line for us to access. Also with them, we can create special pages for any fundraisers we do. For example I need to initiate special campaigns to raise money to help finish the dormitory and purchase a vehicle in Bihar. Because we have created a few Memorial scholarships and an Endowment fund, we have several options for donors besides general operating funds. The money raised is kept in separate "accounts" (online) but we get a single cheque every few weeks. All this is free of charge! This is really a great deal and I had understood it earlier. My contact at Havergal College, they have adopted a FreeSchool and raised \$3000 for us in December) told me that all of the other charities they support use it. So I meant to investigate but the clincher was that Merindi and her friend Chantal both made a donation using Canada Helps and when I got the cheque and the CH marketing material, I could see that this is the direction to go in. Thank you Merindi!!! And since I was slow getting to know about this, I'm just wondering if Australia might have something similar.

Can you please send your newsletter and flyer for me to see? Can you please work on the design and content and what links you want on your page?

Robert: That will be easy – we have it already all written as background plus the publicity material written by Chelsea McLean. All we need to do is format it according to Wiki. I'll get onto it.

Ian: (You can see we have a different timeline between continents and members on line.) To my knowledge we do not have that sort of service over here for assistance with non profit fundraising at grass root level. Await your feedback next week re IT website possible approach.

With the IT website. I think it does not matter about general overall approach of marketing and presentation of FSWL on a global level. However the window of entry to public does have

impact we need consider. I feel it is important to have direct .AU entry for OZ participants. Where and how they then thread through material is a secondary consideration.

Aussie residents could feel overwhelmed by International presence which is softened after they get a feel for what your ideals are. Think of it in the way you answer the phone with an Indian voice sales pitch offering you a better deal for some corporate mob. Better to have a local entry pitch to get your interest first. Better to have an attitude of we need their help than they need our help. Sometimes the above may seem a bit blunt. However the decisions we are asked to make in carrying thru to action our outreach is not necessarily a-sympathetic.

Summarising: Advertise .AU website on all public outreach material and on entry market the FSWL objectives as "Act Local Think Global" you can help here and now.

Merindi: FYI re: Canada Helps ... the donation Chantal and I made was via Facebook. All donations via Facebook for Canadian charities are processed by Canada Helps. This is big, and no, Australia does not have the equivalent organisation over here. However, with the popularity of Facebook, and the growing number of members, I guarantee it won't be long. I'll do a bit of digging ...

Robert: Thank you so much for your research. Charities need charity and it is clearly worthwhile finding out about those "community-style online organizations" like Canada Help and Facebook whose charity is to support other charities in their work for the needy, and without taking a cut

Sue: Last Monday I met with Joan Donogh who is redesigning and will be hosting our new FreeSchools website. We discussed the best way to have one central FreeSchools portal that would connect to the websites of FreeSchools World Literacy in other countries. She recommends that we would operate from her server and she would set it up so that you can freely edit your own page on our site. She suggests that your web address be redirected to www.freeschools.org <<http://www.freeschools.org/>> . An Australian visitor would then have these options:

- * navigating our content,
- * clicking on "Australia" to your dedicated page
- * clicking back to www.freeschools.au <<http://www.freeschools.au/>> .

There would be no extra charge (to me) for your page.

So as I understand it, you would control your own page on our site and still have your own website in Australia but you enter it by way of www.freeschools.org <<http://www.freeschools.org/>> . Your website would feature the projects specific to your support and might include other things like "donate now", the new DVD and media coverage, contact information, president's blog, fundraising stories, volunteer opportunities, downloadable brochure, newsletters, photo gallery, donor credits, Board information, Facebook, U-tube, etc.

On the other hand, www.freeschools.org <<http://www.freeschools.org/>> would say things what we are and what we do, how we are different, facts about illiteracy, why we give girls priority, the challenges in Bihar, the challenges which hill tribes face, the challenges south of Delhi and in Uttar Pradesh, our history, ways to help, + on secondary pages all of the other things specific to what we are doing in Canada.

Because the home page and the generic content is common to us all, I would be greatly encouraged if you would help support it's creation. I propose that I send you my drafts and you give your feedback, asking questions to clarify the meaning and intent, making suggestions about things overlooked, and generally making edits that will create impactful and precise content.

The problem, as ever, is time. We don't have the luxury of endless days of reflection. I need the feedback within 72 hours of my sending it to you as I have promised many people to have this website live within two weeks. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks for your consideration.

Ian: Thank you Joan Donogh We very much appreciate the effort of your website designer and host. That is great news and certainly helps paint a co ordinated approach for a common vision.

Ben: Hi Robert, Merindi and the Australian Free Schools team, It's wonderful to see such energy and momentum now happening for this project. Thanks in no small part to Jo & Judy's inspiring contributions. I join with Sue and with all the Aussie team in congratulating you on your outstanding efforts.

Here in Fang we are days away from launching the Learn to Live pilot teacher-training. A dozen brave men are coming Monday week to undergo 2 weeks of intensive teacher training. They are risking their freedom and their lives to bring the light of truth into Shan State Burma.

Please remember them in your prayers...

Judy: Wow - so much to do in this world of ours. Every bit counts and it sounds amazing. Well done Ben. So lovely to hear the word Fang again. Great memories.

FSWL Newsletter and Publicity Materials

Vern: I'm so pleased you like it, it's a most worthwhile cause to be involved with, glad to help. Just send me the copy and photos for the 2009 Newsletter and I'll put it together for you and send back a PDF you can use and distribute.

Merindi: Hogan Print have very kindly printed a stack of brochures for us, as well as Judy & Robert's business cards. They look great! We'll bring them with us on Sunday, Jude. I'll give you a call tomorrow to confirm time, address and whether you need us to bring anything else. Sue - I've attached Vern's newsletter and the Australian brochure for you.

Judy: So looking forward to seeing. Thanks for the printing -. I had to pay \$280 to get the raffle tickets printed so I know how expensive it is. In this case they will pay for themselves many times over, but if it wasn't raffle tickets it would be a big expense. There seems to be a lot of interest in the afternoon tea but it might be all hot air - we are pretty sure there will be at least 40 people here - luckily we have wonderful friends doing the coffee and cooking. One of my friends lost her Mum on Wed and she is still bringing food over on Sunday to help out! See you whenever you arrive - I may need your Silver Springs organisational skills if lots of people arrive. Can I give you a job such as handing out the lucky door tickets ..writing raffle tickets...etc Could you please send the rain to Victoria for the day as we don't need it here! See you Sunday

FSWL Fundraiser Events

Betty: We are delighted to let you know that we raised \$650.00 at the Morning and Afternoon Teas we held at our home on the 19th Feb. Everything went beautifully and they are now asking ..."when is the next"?. Shall I pay this into the FreeSchools World Literacy, Westpac Bank A/c and if so, do you know the Account No.? or would you prefer I send the cheque to you? Also Robert it would be helpful if a receipt or letter of acknowledgement from FreeSchools could be handed to those who donate substantial amounts such as \$8.00 and over. This would possibly satisfy those who might just query where their donation is going and if it is doing what it is supposed to be doing. I know you mentioned that you could write receipts on 'the day'. Does this mean that you can supply us with receipt books, because if so, this would I believe satisfy those persons who query FreeSchools "is this a legitimate charity"? Also, because I intend to do further fundraising, I would like to be able to assure those giving that their moneys go direct to helping the children. By the way, I showed the DVD at the end of my Teas and it was received very well.

On the matter of the Victorian Bushfires which has shocked everyone. I have decided to re-open Coffee 'N Chat over the next couple of months as a fund raiser for the Appeal. Since my departure in Dec. it has been closed because of the lack of a co-ordinator (me) and volunteers. I do very much feel that I need to get it up and going again to raise moneys for the Appeal and during this time perhaps someone will come forward to continue it on when I leave. This does not

mean that I am deserting FreeSchools, not at all. I will just have to go at low key during these months. I do have in mind some ideas for more 'Teas' and involving schools and people are still asking me when am I going to put on my next Show?!

Many thanks once again and my congratulations to you all for the great work being done.

Merindi: Robert's computer has crashed! He dropped around last night and asked me to let you all know. He also apologises for the repetitive emails that keep sending from his outbox. He should be back on line shortly.

Judy - congratulations on a wonderful fundraiser on Sunday! What a day! I will let you fill the committee in on how it all went. Thank you so much for opening your home to such an event, for such a worthy cause. We need more like you!

Betty - we have some brochures that you may like to use for your fundraiser, but Robert couldn't remember whether you've had it yet or not. Let me know if you'd like me to send you a package, and if so, what your postal address is. I'll get them off in the mail this week.

Delphine - one of Judy's friends, Linda, is having a fundraiser in Charlestown on April 24th. I thought you may like to get in touch with her and see if she needs any help. I'll give you her mobile phone number next time we talk (I don't have it to hand) ... she was a lovely lady, and could use some help I think.

We met Melissa over the weekend, and she's keen to get involved in our committee. I will let Robert take care of this properly with her, but I wanted to mention how great it is to have this growing support. She lives here in Sydney - just up the road actually - and is very interested in giving us her time and commitment.

Judy: I banked \$4703.30 today into the FreeSchools account! Wow. Jo's night was wonderful last night and she raised about \$1750. There are still more raffle tickets to sell and Linda's dinner to go. Looking good! So many more people have heard the word FreeSchool now. Jo will have the new promotional DVD ready soon and as soon as we have charitable status I am off to Rotary. Will have to devote my time to my poor old Mum now. She is pretty bad. So sad. In pain but they can't keep her sedated any more as she has to move around after surgery or she will get pneumonia or bed sores. Life is so cruel because she doesn't understand with her Alzheimer's. Robert - not sure if Paul needs the money now to get the school started or if he would rather wait for the final tally. Will ask

Sue: Dear Judy, Murray, Joanna, James, Robert (and girls), Merindi, Bernie, Vern and others...

I am so thrilled (for all of you!!) that the weekend fundraisers were such a success and thank you from the bottom of my heart for your stellar volunteer efforts on behalf of the Thai FreeSchools. I wish I could have been there to help and enjoy the sense of accomplishment that you now must feel.

Judy - I know you were hesitant because you'd never done a fundraiser before, and you were unsure if people would even come to support your cause, but you stepped out in faith with conviction, determination and an incredible heart. Those kids in HuayMuang are going to have a better life starting right away because of your efforts. FreeSchools will continue to grow and spread literacy because of you,

Joanna - Not only did you bring your many talents to bear on getting FreeSchools solid news coverage, which has enhanced our credibility here in Canada, but you have given us a taste of what great potential there is for FreeSchools once media picks up on our story. After seeing the mounds of donations for the Thai schools that you and Jude actually got delivered, I don't have any doubts you two can do anything you set your minds to. What a great stroke of good fortune to have encountered your combined sense of adventure, contagious enthusiasm and incredible friendship.

Thanks again everyone for contributing your valuable time and resources to this important work. With a grateful heart, Sue

Betty: Thanks for your offer of free brochures. My morning and afternoon teas were on the 19th Feb and I managed to assemble some brochures using The FreeSchools'

brochure cover with the one page news coverage on Illiteracy in Asia and The FreeSchools Model printed on the other side. It looked quite OK. - more importantly it provided those who came with up to date news on FreeSchools. Because they were held in my home I was limited as to the number of people I could fit in. The attraction for everyone was the beautiful panoramic view we have of the Huon Valley and of course the food! However everyone very much warmed to The FreeSchools project as soon as I showed our DVD. It was great to be able to show this and I believe it "put the icing on the cake". with those present wanting to come again. We had 42 people altogether with some unable to come but gave a donation just the same. I charged \$8 p.p. We raised \$650 so you can see some people donated more than the specified amount. It doesn't sound a lot but I think it excellent for a simple morning and afternoon tea. These Teas will surely double in number and even more. I have been given the Supper Room in our Palais Theatre in Franklin to use whenever I want it. It is a beautiful old historical building and is situated in the centre of our little village with a beautiful view of the river and hills. As my background is mainly involved in Theatre and Entertainment I might combine the Teas with some entertainment or a fashion parade - However we'll take that as it comes.

Over the next couple of months I have agreed to help with the Victorian Bushfire Appeal because they need co-ordinators and there are only a few people who they can call on, so my FreeSchools fundraising will not be as active as I would like, However, as I am sure you will agree, there is a very great urgency just now to give as much aid to the Bushfire Appeal as possible.

Concerning brochures, I would love some if that is still OK as I will still be talking about FreeSchools and if possible, doing whatever fundraising I can to contribute.

Robert, I will mail our cheque for the amount of \$650 direct to you in the next couple of days. Kind Regards to Everyone and Congratulations

Kathleen: Well done Betty, Jo and Judy!! What achievements. You're all truly an inspiration. Cheers.

Sue: Your efforts for FreeSchools are amazing. Bless you. I can't believe you know so many people! And good luck raising support for bush fire survivors. What a trouper you are. Warmest regards.

Ian: Great job, Betty. The Rotary District 9800 is having their annual conference in Launceston next week and there are 5 from my club attending including our VP who is in charge of the District literacy program. Was hoping to attend however starting 2 construction jobs of which I must oversee. One way or the other, I hope to get down your way sometime to connect.

Betty: Thank you so much for our efforts. I am just overwhelmed with the support that the FreeSchools concept is receiving, having just experienced Judy and Jo's wonderful afternoon tea event last weekend. The weather smiled upon us in the beautiful garden setting of Judy's home, while family members and friends kept the coffee, cakes and raffle tickets flowing all afternoon. Strangers and friends sat around and talked around settings of garden furniture, sun umbrellas, and posters with photos from Thailand, while kids played about. The atmosphere was abuzz with excitement. One boy told his mum, "I have \$15 in my piggybank. We can educate a child with that." and he gave it to FreeSchools.\

I can really picture your event in my mind, Betty, and I would have loved to have been there also – thank you so much. I will send personal letters of thanks from the president to all of your donors. Could you please send me a list with all of their names addresses and the donation amounts, and I will prepare them each a letter (or I will send the letters to you, if you want to present them personally).

Robert: We will send you a bunch of professionally prepared and printed brochures for your use. You can make out the cheque to "FreeSchools World Literacy" or you can deposit the donations directly into our bank account, whichever is most convenient to you, Betty.

Bank: Westpac

Account Name: FreeSchools World Literacy
BSB Number: 032-196
Account Number: 26-6690

Please take care to rest and don't work yourself too hard, Betty.

Robert: I look forward to seeing that DVD, Judy, and then we can get a copy to Betty in Tasmania as well for her work, and Linda..

I have offered to write personal letters of thanks from FreeSchools to Betty's afternoon tea donors – if you would like me to do likewise for your donors, such as Lyons Club, please provide me with a list of their names, addresses and donation amounts.

\$4,703.30, that is phenomenal, Judy! Since my computer went down, I have tried to call a few times, but obviously you have been away at the hospital taking care of your mum (who would be extremely proud of you if she could know of what you are achieving).

When you get a spare moment you can call me at home – 9451 8496 – this weekend or any evening – and we will discuss the fine details of sending the afternoon tea donation money to Thailand.

Judy and Murray: Dear Robert, I will have a \$750 cheque from the Tuggerah Lakes Senior Campus to add to that on Tuesday, so perhaps wait until that clears into the FreeSchools account and send it all together. I will organise the addresses of the Lions Club and the school for a special thank you letter. That is a great idea. Seems even more special coming from you. I will be sending my own as well. I am going to convert \$5453 into bart - just for fun! With more raffle money and Linda's dinner to come - we may be starting two FreeSchools in northern Thailand this May. I thought it would be best to start one and have the funding ready for two years to ensure its future but Paul is certain there are more villages like Huay Muang and thinks it would be best to start two if they can. Jaddat is wonderful and goes out to Fang every fortnight so I am sure he will know of a village that would benefit. Sue introduced us to an amazing teacher who has helped FreeSchools from the beginning (Sue -not sure of the spelling of her name Poyie?) - and I know if there is an opportunity to start a new school she will know of a building.

Talk soon - Mum still really bad, our most favourite uncle died on Thursday - funeral this week and my brother came back from a training course with Bells Palsy - hopefully things will improve this week!

Thanks for the lovely description of the afternoon tea - I have worried all week because I forgot a few details and realised that I didn't put all the chairs out. Thought someone else did and didn't check! Hope everyone was comfortable - what a crowd! Warm regards.

Melisa: Thanks again for taking me to the afternoon tea last weekend. It was great to see what a couple of ordinary individuals can do when they put their mind to it - it was inspiring. I checked my emails this weekend because I thought there might be an email committee meeting. If ok with you I would like to be involved in future committee meetings. Mins also said that their maybe some paperwork that I could help out with, so if ok with you I will email her to see what I can do. I will be sponsoring a child in the near future, I am just waiting for some extra funds to come through.

Linda Alcorn: Hi Robert, This is Linda . I met you at Judy and Jo's fundraising afternoon last week. I'm keen to get moving on fund raising. My principal has Ok'd me fund raising through Harmony Day and I need your power point presentations to show to the various forms in form assemblies I intend to organise soon. I'm hoping that you can find time to copy yours and send to me ASAP. you can send to:

Linda Alcorn

Whitebridge High School,

Lonus Ave

Whitebridge, 2290

The ph no at school is 0249 433966. My mobile is 0425 223355

Do you know if Delphleen is still interested in helping? I'd really appreciate it and it could fit in easily with being a young Mum. It was good to meet you. Thanks in advance!
I've organised special assemblies at the end of next week to see the power point presentations on FreeSchools. Please, can you let me know if its possible to send them to me or if you are too busy that's ok, but I need to know in order to go ahead.

Robert: Today the FreeSchools DVD and FreeSchools PowerPoint CD are on their way to you by Express Post to the below address, so you should have them Monday.

Robert: Yesterday I received a cheque for FreeSchools from Betty Lyon and the following note;

Dear Robert,

Enclosed is the cheque for \$650 which is the monies raised at my morning and afternoon teas I held on the 19th February.

It was a delight to be able to do this and hopefully when things quieten down here in little Franklin, I can out on another.

*Best regards,
Betty L.*

Betty, we do thank you so much for your efforts in tiny Franklin, and hopefully the DVDs, reports and photos will show some of the work that is being achieved in the poorest parts of the world. This month's FSWL statement shows Judy and Jo Townsend's cheque of \$4703.30 in the bank - the results of the Lions Club donation and their afternoon fund raiser. The automatic direct debit monthly donations from the Swadling and Belarski families of \$15 each have also been received. I have also received a cheque in the mail for \$200 from Katja Maajen who maintains a donations tin of the counter of her craft store. "OUR PLACE AT TILBA" in Tilba on the NSW South Coast. Thank you one and all for your work on the FreeSchools World Literacy Project.

Sue: I'm just peering in from Canada and saying "Great job everyone!" Thanks to all getting on board to help fund FreeSchools. You are changing the lives of precious children who would not otherwise have a chance of any education. Your support won't only lift kids up, but in some cases it will save their lives from cruel and brutal exploitation. From the bottom of my heart, Thank you.

Judy: Wow Sue that is so wonderful. I banked another \$870 today as well. The raffle hasn't sold many tickets at the shopping centre so next time I will have to rethink the strategy. The man who said he would help sold out of tickets for his last raffle, but he had a set of golf clubs that his customers virtually tripped over as they came into the shop. Our prize is tickets, and it is very difficult to display. Everything else has gone so well that we have to expect some duds. Linda is having a mufti day at her school where the children pay to come out of uniform, she is making wrist bands and having a sausage sizzle, so I am sure she will be very successful as well. Looks like the Thai Schools will be open in May as we hoped. I presume Jaddet knows which ones are needed the most. I really believe that it would be beneficial if some of the volunteers went to see the FreeSchools because they could easily run an afternoon tea when they came back - it makes it so much easier when you have actually seen the school and the children.

Joanna: Hi Robert - can I ask a favour? Can you send me an "official" looking email thanking us for our afternoon tea (Central Coast) and dinner (North Sydney) for fundraisers? I want to pass it on to people that donated raffle prizes. Just a couple of lines will do. thanks!

Robert: Yesterday I called Peter Hogan of Hogan Printers to personally thank him on behalf of the Committee for printing our brochures and cards. He was very pleased to have been able to assist us in this way and appreciated the call of thanks. I asked him why he didn't put his printers name on the material and he said that this publicity aspect was not important for him as the opportunity to be able to help.

He also said that he is looking forward to help FreeSchools World Literacy in whatever future opportunity – a very nice gesture indeed.

Robert: Linda phoned me earlier this week to say that the FreeSchools World Literacy DVD and FSWL PowerPoint arrived safely in the mail. On behalf of the Committee, we wish Linda every success for her FreeSchools fund raising through the Harmony Day event at Whitebridge High School, and a fun day for all the students.

Betty: You mentioned that you would send me separate thank you notes to those who attended the morning and afternoon teas on 19th Feb. It isn't really necessary to go to all that trouble. If you can just write one simple thank you note headed ..."Betty's Morning and Afternoon Teas etc etc etc and signed by yourself as President of Free Schools, I can then make copies and give them out to the appropriate people or I might place a copy in our local news paper. I hope this will be easier for you.

The Bushfire Appeal which I am working on at the moment is going very well and we are getting a good response. This will finish the last week in April and I have planned my next "Teas" for FreeSchools the 3rd week in April. From the comments I am hearing about our last Teas and with some new ideas for entertainment, I am thinking of holding them over 2 days as my home won't fit everyone in.

Robert I'll keep you informed and my congratulations to everyone on the wonderful work being carried out.

Robert; Thank you again for all of the work that you put in to organize those highly successful morning and afternoon teas in Franklin.

Please find attached a thank you letter from the Committee of Management for the participants of your morning and afternoon teas. When you open the letter to print it out for each one of your attendees, if you like, you could put in their names individually. This will have the effect of making each of their letters a bit more personal and special, although words will never be able to let them fully appreciate the impact that their donations will be having over in these destitute corners of our world.

Judy: Hi Robert, Just letting you know that the raffle for the Acer Arena tickets has been drawn. The Box Seat was won by Debbie Lew who bought \$50 worth of tickets; the quilt by Heather Page who bought her whole family along to the afternoon tea, the painting by Pam Slough who bought \$100 worth of tickets; the Skins by Joshua Horner whose family also bought \$100 worth and the makeover was won by my brother!!!!.....who donated it back and it was won by Jenny Hall - a lovely teacher on my staff who is always a big supporter of FreeSchools. Fancy my brother winning an hours makeup session. Too funny. I won't ever be so ambitious with a raffle again as I don't really have an avenue to sell tickets. I can't use our school as it is in a very poor area and they struggle enough with fund raising. Next time I do attempt a raffle it will be just one that is drawn on the same day - with no printed tickets etc. I have almost enough to post the other box to Thailand and that will be the end of our fundraising at the moment. Will keep a keen eye out for future small raffle opportunities and hopefully some speaking engagements at Rotary. Hopefully the last deposit with the High School cheque has cleared and we still have Linda's big day to look forward to. Isn't she wonderful - she didn't even get to see the schools around Fang and is the most amazing supporter. She saw a lot in Chiang Rai and knows what a difference these village schools make.

Robert: Thank you again for all of that effort, brilliant!, and it has also been a learning exercise as to what you found easier and what is harder to do. Nevertheless, a lot of people had a lot of fun out of what you organized and kindly donated to the cause, Do you want

any other special letters of thanks done – such as the Lions Club people? And tell me when you want the funds sent to Thailand.

I was thinking about that box of pencils and books to go to Thailand and the exorbitant cost that Australia Post wants to charge us for doing so – should we wait until somebody next goes to Thailand to bring the box along in the hold of the aircraft as one of their allowed suitcases?

Judy: The boxes weigh almost 20kg - that is the weight limit - and there are not many tourists going to Chiang Rai. I know exactly how you feel and I will NEVER collect donated goods again. It snowballed out of control and getting the 150 kg over there was bigger than organising the afternoon tea and the raffle! Every man and his dog wanted to send books, pencils, textas etc - it was crazy. The contents of the boxes are very valuable so I will send them off and put a full stop to that hair brained idea! It was absolutely amazing being able to give every school their much needed supplies but as you say the cost is disproportionate! I can't ask our donors again as the customs forms are the world's biggest nightmare, the embassy wasn't easy to deal with etc etc...I will just send them and get them out of my house! I have enough school supplies all day - let alone coming home to them!

I have already sent thankyou's - I used the same letter that you gave Jo. It was great.

The lady that won the painting is on holidays but all the other prizes have been delivered. All greatly appreciated and I am sure if I ever run another (much smaller) afternoon tea that they will come and bring their friends.

Melissa: Just wanted to let you know that I have donated \$300 to the Freeschools Bihar Relief today to use where most needed.

Robert: Dear Melissa, I hope that you had an enjoyable break in Byron Bay and have settled back into work. Last weekend, I took the children to their annual family camp in the Blue Mountains, which they look forward to so much – and as you can imagine that was a very noisy weekend!

Thank you for your kind donation of \$300 to the FreeSchools Bihar Relief Fund which will go a long way over there, giving about 17 kids a FreeSchools education for a year. Kind regards and thanks,

Linda: Friday's efforts at fundraising for Freeschools in combination with Harmony Day was really successful. We had an Out of Uniform Day with a gold coin donation, sold sausage sandwiches and soft drinks and some wrist bands. I'll know how much we raised by Monday afternoon but it should be around \$1,000 I hope. Who do I make a cheque out to? And where do I send it? The money has been collected by the school so I need to make a cheque from the school sorry.

A friend hosted a dinner party and I have around \$150 from that. Two artist friends donated a ceramic water purifier and photographic print that I've started raffling. The afternoon tea is Sunday 3rd May where I hope to raise quite a bit too.

Delphine is helping with trying to get prizes for lucky dips.

Robert: It sounds like a really good day was had by all. Thank you so much for your efforts and thank you to Delphine also. The cheque can be made out to FreeSchools World Literacy and can be mailed to me at

Dr Robert Coenraads
President-FreeSchools World Literacy
8 Trigalana Place
Frenchs Forest NSW 2086

Or alternatively, the donations can be deposited directly into the FreeSchools Westpac Account, whichever is the most convenient for you

Bank: Westpac
Account Name: FreeSchools World Literacy
BSB Number: 032-196
Account Number: 26-6690

Judy: Linda, How cool are you! I will be there on Sunday 3rd. What can I bring? Don't forget to give me an address. Will a Ken Duncan print help with the raffle. It is framed , huge beach scene. My girlfriend donated it to me for my raffle but the tickets were already printed. Will I bring it on the day?

Melissa: am organizing a small fundraiser for the 18th April and I was wondering if you had any material that I could show at the function to explain where their money is going.

Robert: You could show the videos. I have an 8 and 12 min video of the Indian Schools. and Judy is going to send me Joanna Townsend's video that she made in Thailand. We also have our pamphlets.

Is there anything else that I could help you with.

Judy and Murray: Robert, I have finally copied the new DVD. Can't find your address - can you please send it to me so i can post one to you. Copy as many as you want. I wish I knew how - I am always asking favours of people. Know I have it somewhere but can't find it. A lady called Melissa is having a fundraiser as well. The word spreads. Paul is in Australia at the moment - I would have loved you to meet him as well as Moo the most amazing woman you would ever want to meet. I hear they want to open 5 new schools now! I will have to keep my nose to the ground to get opportunities for lucky dips and prizes. I was lucky enough to be given a huge, framed Ken Duncan print and Linda is using it for her raffle. It is enormous! Got a dozen wines today - good start.

Must a way my friend. I am tired and pretty useless at the moment - need a break from school and Mum so we are off for a few days camping with my brother at Valla Beach.

7. Correspondence with Supporters and Donors

Sue:

Dear Geoff,

Profuse apologies for our late expression of gratitude for your very kind support of FreeSchools. Thank you so much! You and your wife will be helping to change, if not save, the lives of several children enrolled in our FreeSchools programs in India and Thailand this year.

We are forwarding receipts to you by email.

For your information, FreeSchools is incorporated in Australia but is awaiting charitable tax status. By way of this email I'm introducing you to Robert Coenenraads, president of FSWL-AU. Robert lives in Sydney and visited a Bihar, India free evening school in 2000. He and his family have been supporters ever since. I hope you two will chat.

When our new website is up and running it will give the appropriate options for Australian, Canadian and American donors. Meanwhile, we will direct your donations to FreeSchools directly to the field from Canada.

Here are details for the FSWL-AU data base.

*Geoff Banning and Kaylyn J. Farrelly
14 Norfolk Place,
North Richmond,
Sydney 2754*

phone: 0245713378

Thank you again Geoff for responding to this very important work. May the good you do multiply and come back to you.

Best wishes, Sue

Dear Tyene,

Profuse apologies for the late expression of appreciation for your very kind monthly donation to FreeSchools! Your generous gift of money for a sewing machine will be given to the handicapped school in Sugauli, Bihar, India. Any chance to learn tailoring and a livelihood can salvage self-respect and redirect a life. Your thoughtfulness has consequences you can't even imagine. Thank you so much!

We are forwarding receipts to you by email.

For your information, FreeSchools is incorporated in Australia but is awaiting charitable tax status. By way of this email I'm introducing you to Robert Coenenraads, president of FSWL-AU. Robert lives in Sydney and visited a Bihar, India free evening school in 2000. He and his family have been supporters ever since. I hope you two will chat.

When our new website is up and running it will give the appropriate options for Australian, Canadian and American donors. Meanwhile, we will direct your donations to FreeSchools directly to the field from Canada.

Here are details for the FSWL-AU data base.

*Tyene Trienen
ttrienen@bigpond.net.au
Phone: 073-267-7551*

Thank you again Tyene for responding to this very important work. May the good you do multiply and come back to you.

Best wishes, Sue

8. Set date and time for COM meeting. Close meeting

Meetings of the Committee of FSWL Australia will be held on the first Friday of each month.

The next official meeting will be from Friday 3rd of April to Sunday 5th of April 2009.

I would like to thank the Committee of Management for all of its efforts

END OF MINUTES

APPENDIX REPORTS

1. LETTER FOR FREESCHOOLS DONORS

13th March 2009

Donation of Prizes for the FreeSchools World Literacy Charity Afternoon Tea on the Central Coast and Evening Dinner held in North Sydney.

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the Australian Committee of Management of FreeSchools World Literacy, I would like to thank you for your donation of a prize for the Raffle Event. Funds raised as a result of your kind donation will be used to provide education in the FreeSchools system for some of the world's poorest and most needy children. In this case, donations raised from Joanna and Judy Townsend's afternoon tea and dinner will be used in the poorest Thailand/Burma border regions for the construction and maintenance of a completely new FreeSchool.

Funds raised by FreeSchools and sent to Thailand or India are most carefully used, with all of the donations reaching the school communities in their entirety. The FreeSchools program currently supports over 3,500 students leaning from 90 teachers at 72 FreeSchool World Literacy funded centres in India and Thailand, and with your help, it will continue to grow. More detailed information can be found on our website at www.freeschools.org.au.

Thank you again for your support, and we hope that you will feel the sense of reward and pleasure for the vital work that you are enabling FreeSchools World Literacy to achieve.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Robert Coenraads
President
FreeSchools World Literacy

Your contribution will help such students to:

- *Complete their school education*
 - *Obtain a career far more fitting to their ability*
 - *Better support their poor family*
 - *Take a place in their local community and complete the cycle*
-

2. FEBRUARY 2009 FREESCHOOLS REPORT FROM THAILAND

Monthly report on February 2009

Note from the editor (Paul):

During Sue's visit we all agreed that the aim of FreeSchools World Literacy is to provide education to those that otherwise do not get access to education.

The Thailand component of FreeSchools had diverged from that goal before Mirror Foundation was involved and it was now time to bring it back.

Jadad was left with the task of making our discussions turn into reality. I think this report shows he is 90% of the way there. There is still more research, checks and ongoing work to be done, but we are on track.

INTRODUCTION

Sue visited the area in the middle of January and she directed to stop supporting FreeSchool sites where kids could gain access to government schooling. It was therefore decided to reduce the project from the 11 schools and villages to 4 continuing schools and villages for 2009, whilst opening new FreeSchools sites in areas where children were not gaining the benefit of education.

Jadad met with the teachers at the schools and villages, the school directors and the village leaders. He gave details about why the project was stopping and that there would be no more budget support to hire teachers in the selected villages and schools.

2008	2009
Muangchum School	Closed
Huay Naam Yen School	Closed
Huay Pu School	Closed
Prapan Aree School	Continuing with 1 less teacher
Pakao School	Continuing
Nong Tao village	Closed but may need scholarship assistance
Huay Janu village	Closed
Den Luang village	Closed
Mae Pa Pai village	Closed
Lin Puton village	Continuing
Praju village	Continuing
Huay Muang village	Starting
Doi Pu Muen village	Starting
Huay Jun Si village	Hopefully starting / checking
Huay Krai village	Hopefully starting / checking
Rom Thai village	Hopefully starting / checking

SCHOOLS

The schools where our previous students can access government teachers and so therefore are ceasing as a FreeSchool include: Huay Naam Yen School, Huay Pu School and Muangchum School. These 3 examples can get government funds to employ a

teacher after the project has stopped. They all thanked you us very much for support in the preceding years.

As yet Pakoh and Prapan-Aree Schools have not been able to secure government funding for teachers to replace the FreeSchool supplied teachers.

Pakoh School, before the FreeSchools program began, this school had closed the kindergarten education class because they did not have teacher. After our project begun with this school in 2008, the school was able to open the kindergarten again. We have operated the project in this school for only 1 year. Enrollments for the class are increasing as a teacher is available. The school has requested assistance to extend our project for one more year, so as it has enough evidence to send a letter to the education administrative office requesting a teacher to fill the then proven need.

Prapan-Aree School previously received 3 FreeSchool funded teachers. The kindergarten class at this school has 110 children. This level now has 1 government funded teacher and they have requested that we supply 2 teachers for one more year so as the school can again approach the government for further assistance.

Note: Although working with the government schools is the activity that is least in line with the FreeSchool aim, in both remaining cases we are progressing to a situation where the government takes over our role, which I think can be seen as a win for us. In the case of Pakoh School, without the FreeSchool supplied teacher the class will close and those kids will not be getting an education. In the case of Prapan-Aree School, without the FreeSchool supplied teachers, there would be a class of 125 four to five year olds left with just 1 teacher. Not an appropriate situation and one that would be likely to see that teacher being overwhelmed and it wouldn't surprise me to see the teacher resign in such circumstances.

It is the experience of Mirror Foundation that kindergarten is vital in the education of ethnic minority kids in particular. Prior to kindergarten they generally speak their own language at home, and it is during kindergarten that they start learning Thai. If this stage is lost, the percentage of ethnic minority kids that drops out of school early will greatly increase. For these reasons I hope it can be seen that continuing at these two government schools for a further year is achieving the aims of FreeSchools and will have positive results.

VILLAGES

Nong Tao, Huay Janu, Denluang and Mae Pa Pai will be closed as the children can and generally do access government schooling.

In the case of Nong Tao village, there are 15 kids that do not go to school. The reason for non attendance is poverty. Jadad is currently researching each family's situation. Currently we suspect for around 600 Baht each, these kids will have the necessary funds to get books, uniforms, food and transport so as they can attend school. Currently as the schools are closed and also whilst government regulations are changing, Jadad hasn't been able to complete his investigation into what will be needed, but he will report on this shortly.

Praju and Lin Puton villages are 2 villages that we still need to operate in 2009.

The new villages: currently we are coordinating with the schools and villages about the details of the location and number of people who will come to study and the teacher, their needs.

As we gain more information we will report again. We hope all of these will open in April, but currently cannot guarantee that.

UNEMPLOYED TEACHERS

Part of Jadad's work has been to ensure that the teachers from the schools we are closing are OK and have sufficient alternative income. We are able to report that all of them have jobs, and although they may have decreased income, all of them are OK and there is no requirement for us to take on further work to assist them.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Praju learning center.

List of equipment used in each month.

1. 51 books
2. 51 pencils
3. 34 pens (blue 20/red 14 piece)
4. 12 crayons boxes
5. 12 pastel boxes
6. A4 1 ream.
7. Rubber 25 pieces
8. Liquid 10 pieces.
9. Ruler 25 pieces.
10. Write board pen 5 pieces.
11. Chalk 1 box.

History of Praju village.

Praju village is a Lahu village that separated from Huay Naam Yen village. They established the village around 48 years ago. The Lahu people in this village are Buddhists and Christian. The population in the village around 189 people made up of 37 families. The leadership of the village is in its second generation. The first leader was named Praju Du Saeng and the current is Jayi Merju. They get some help from the leaders of Huay Naam Yen village. Problems in the village relate to lack of money for development of the village; lack of support for the people who do not have the relatives nearby; orphans with no money to go to school; and some of them work as casual labor and they do not have a stable income.

Resource: Jayi Merju

**The name list of the children who attend free school project
Kindergarten (First level) 4-6 years**

Number	Name/ Lastname	Age	Remark
1	Pasit Kusang (Boy)	6	
2	Somchai Merju	6	
3	Somsak Japuechejai (Boy)	6	
4	Suwat Jachee (Boy)	6	
5	Anucha Pakga (Boy)	7	
6	Sak Jator (Boy)	6	
7	Rachen Jara (Boy)	6	
8	Mali Dusang (Girl)	4	
9	Sangjan Ala (Girl)	4	
10	Saisunee Jakoh (Girl)	4	
11	Busakorn Paya (Girl)	3	
12	Jamlee Hnuttarajak (Girl)	6	
13	Thanida Jaue (Girl)	6	
14	Sawanee Jajoh (Girl)	6	
15	Sutini Kaiyai (Girl)	6	
16	Kulanan Thaiyai (Girl)	4	
17	Ratanaporn Pakkha (Girl)	5	

**The name's list of the children who attend free school project
Kindergarten (second level) 7-8 years**

Number	Name/ Lastname	Age	Remark
1	Somboon Chalee (Boy)	7	
2	Jaeur Kraisri (Boy)	7	
3	Jati Kraisri (Boy)	9	
4	Jasor Jator (Boy)	9	
5	Jasi dusang (Boy)	9	
6	Wilaiporn Pakga (Girl)	8	
7	Pannida Merjoo (Girl)	7	
8	Saranya Jerjoo (Girl)	7	
9	Napee Ahla (Girl)	7	
10	Yupin Mejoo (Girl)	8	
11	Methawadee Khamrin (Girl)	9	
12	Aton Pantee (Girl)	8	
13	Napa Ahla (Girl)	9	
14	Opor Jina (Girl)	9	
15	Oraphan Jakoh (Girl)	9	
16	Amphai Jerjoo (Girl)	9	
17	Pui Terjoo (Girl)	9	

**The name's list of the children who attend free school project
Kindergarten (third level) 10-12 years**

Number	Name/ Last name	Age	Remark
1	Jaha Kusang (Boy)	12	
2	AKha Ja (Boy)	10	
3	Jasue Dusang (Boy)	11	
4	Termeng Khali (Boy)	10	
5	Aina Sangga (Boy)	10	
6	Jaborti Nerjoo (Boy)	10	
7	Yafu Jati (Boy)	11	
8	Tackwa Khali (Boy)	11	
9	Jasuan Jerjoo (Boy)	12	
10	P hut Phakga (Boy)	12	
11	Sasithorn Phantee (Girl)	11	
12	Nanui Merjoo (Girl)	10	
13	Orada Merjoo (Girl)	10	
14	Mutee Dusang (Girl)	10	
15	Mamoo Ara (Girl)	10	
16	Sudarattana Dusang (Girl)	12	
17	Nahwa Jaoua (Girl)	12	

Total number of the children who attend the project is 51 persons

**The information of education at Prapan-Aree school.
Mae Ai district, Chiang Mai**

Prapan-Aree School is currently under control of Chiang Mai education office area 3. The school teaches children from kindergarten to grade 6, primary school and has 7 communities in the area that have children studying at the school, such as Huay Luang, Huay Wai, Huayphakluay, Kew Tai, Huay Jun see, Huaysaikaaw and Suan som. All of the children who attend this school are the ethnic minorities such as Lahu, Dara-and and Shan. The language the children normally use to communicate is their own ethnic languages.

Now, the school has the 430 students and 13 teachers. In 2008, there were 98 students in kindergarten grade and separated in 4 levels: first grade has 2 rooms, second grade 2 rooms and this year, 2009 the kindergarten is getting more students as per the chart.

The total chart of the student in kindergarten grade.

Year	Number
2006	87
2007	92
2008	98
2009	110
2010	115

Normally for management and teaching of kindergarten grade it is recognized in Thailand that there should be 1 teacher and 1 assistance for 25 students. In 2008 Prapan-Aree School had in kindergartens 98 students and only 1 teacher, 3 assistants. If compared with the recognized requirement, the school should have 3 more teachers and 1 more assistant.

Also, the students in kindergarten who come to learn in school, especially first grade, age between 4-5 years old use the Hilltribe language to communication and so there is more problem in management and teaching these students, problems in controlling classes, cultural misunderstandings, etc. The important thing is the assistant must speak the Hilltribe language used to communicate with the students to understand and reduce the problem that can occur.

From the information presented, we see that this school faces problem such as lack of the teachers and teacher assistants to manage education at good quality. The school asked assistance from the project to provide and support teachers in kindergarten class.

For year 2009, 110 children will attend kindergarten, so then the school asked assistance from the project to hire a teacher and 2 teacher assistants.

Phakoh school, Baan Luang, Mae Ai district, Chiang Mai.

About: The reason to extend the project.
.....

As it was notified from the coordinator of free school project, The Mirror Foundation about the project will cut the budget to hire the teacher and the teacher assistance in kindergarten. From that, make the school face the problem of as do not have the teacher because in year 2009 (which will open on 16 May 2009) the school has had to recruit a new students already, until now the children have to apply in the kindergarten class is 40 people and expected that will increase the number.

From these reasons, the school would like to ask the assistance and support to hire the teachers to still have the education for kindergartens through.

To consider

(Mr. Chalor Chuangsakul)

Director of Phakoh School

(Above is the letter from the school sent to us to ask the assist)

Phakoh School notified us that they need our help to support the budget to continue to hire 1 teacher because the school has already notified the villages that it is open to enrollments for kindergarten and around 40 kids have already been enrolled. They have no other kindergarten to go to.

We think that we should continue this year because our project has only worked with this school 1 year and they need more time to get a government teacher.

The villages that project go to coordinate to work together such as Doi Pu Mai village, Baan Huay Krai, Baan Rom Thai and Baan Huay Jan Sri.

Baan Huay Pu Muen.

The village name: Baan Huay Pu Mai Nai.

The population: 484 people.

The village's region.

The north borders the National Park (Doi Pha Hompok).

The South borders the National Park (Doi Pha Hompok).

The west borders National Park (Doi Pha Hompok).

The East borders Baan Mae Hang village.

History of the village.

The original population of Baan Huay Pa Muen is the Lahu tribe. Settlers came here around 80 years ago, but from talking with the villagers they do not know who was the founder of the village nor from where their ancestors originally came from.

General aspects of the village.

Baan Huay Pa Muen located in the southwest district of Mae Ai district and far from the district centre by around 18 kilometers. Baan Huay Pa Meun Nai is located in Moo 15, Tambon Mae Sao, Mae Ai district, Chiang Mai. It is a hilly and mountainous area. The highest mountain in the area is Doi Pha Hom Pok.

The location of the village: in national park (Doi Phahompok)

Tribe: they are Lahu tribe. There are two villages as Buddhist village and Christian villages.

Language: Lahu language, dialect and Thai language.

The occupation: Farming and general employee.

Education of the population: Uneducated 227 person and children are not appropriate to study 50 people. Still study in kindergarten grade to grade 6 is 135 people, Graduate from grade 6 is 62 people, and study in grade 6 to grade 9 is 6 people and study in grade 9 to grade 12 is 6 people.

We coordinate with the border patrol police school and the village leader already to open the new area of our project that will continue teaching in April 2009. Now, the village leader and the border police patrol school check the number of the children who did not attend the school total 227 people and children who have not appropriate to study total 50 people to announce who are interested to apply to study with our project. In the beginning, will use the border police petrol school place in teaching and will continue to find the other areas as a class for the children.

We expected that will have the parents of the children interested and sent their children come to attend the class. The number of the children who come to study with our project will notify you in the next report.

Note: I didn't understand that 100% either and SORRY, in my meeting with Jadad I didn't clear this point up. My understanding of it is: it is a remote village near the border. Currently the Thai Border Patrol Police run a school for the kids somewhere near here – I am not sure exactly. But they are not actually teachers and it seems there is still many kids missing out. Anyway, Jadad will get more information about this school to you in future reports.

RomThai Child Development Center.

The History of child development centre.

The Child development center locates on 219 Baan RomThai, Tambon Tha Thon, Mae Ai district, Chiang Mai. On 1 April 2007 open the class to teach the children with Ms. Prakaidaw Saenglang as the operator and also be the teachers who take care and teach the children. The center opens to teach the kindergarten class 3 levels and the age 3-5 years old. The child development center has only 1 teacher and 1 assistant to teach the children in the center. On 1 April 2008, has to open the new building for children in the village as a child age between 1 year 6 months to 3 years old and has hired an assistance 1 person. Which the center will develop the building and continuously management the education curriculum has the quality. The development of children age between 3 - 5 years old and the children under criteria very importance, then the center continue to development of physical, emotional and social of the children to be very attentive (the center open: Monday - Saturday at 07.00-17.00)

Today, the children who come to learn in the center is 62 people by the center collect money from parents who send the children come to learn in the center for the

teacher salary. We think that will support the budget to hire 1 teacher in open the new area and the teacher will teach the youth in the evening also.

The aim of the center.

1. To promote and encourage the children to get a sanitary treat and receive training and full potential.
2. To develop child's readiness as follow the psychological development and the management of childhood education.
3. To encourage the community involvement in the development and readiness of children before entering primary school and encourage the family to support as the based in treating and the properly develop of the children.
4. To share the burden of take care the children from the parents with less income have a time to go to work.

The philosophy and goals of the school

The philosophy: children are the most important resource.

Vision: Child Development Center is the development center of children age 3-5 years old to be ready mentally (IQ) and emotional (EQ) to good growth as well adults and can coexist with others in society.

The goal of the school.

1. To prepare the children age 2- 6 years old in the body, social, emotional, understanding in full potential.
2. To encourage the parents to properly treat.
3. The children awareness of environmental conservation and culture.
4. The children have good ethics.
5. The community confidence, satisfaction and accept of our management the school education in the area.

The children who come to study in this school is "stateless" the school focused on this issue more because in the village has variety of ethnic, religious and the number of stateless children, then teachers trying to give parents and children can solve their own problems. The Child Development Center was established to support the children who not ready to go to school that the parents can not take care because to go to work outside the village. The personnel in the center have volunteer spirit to be raising children of all loving.

Again during my meeting with Jadad I didn't discuss this case, as we were concentrating on what was happening with the previous schools. My reading of this one is that it is an education project set up by a local Thai woman that is getting education to stateless kids and Jadad's plans are to support it with a FreeSchool teacher and also using the facilities and that teacher to teach to other kids in the area in the evenings (are they out working during the day?)

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